

Message Text

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SUBJECT: BRAZIL-U.S. SUB-GROUP ON AGRICULTURE

REF: (A) STATE 209295 (B) BRASILIA 6338

1. SUMMARY. GOB ACCEPTS IN PRINCIPLE SEPTEMBER 20-21, 1978 FOR FIRST MEETING ON SUB-GROUP ON AGRICULTURE. FONMIN IS EXPECTED TO OVERSEE ORGANIZATION AND MANDATE OF SUB-GROUP. SEVERAL MINISTRIES IN ADDITION TO AGRICULTURE, AS WELL AS OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, WILL BE ON GOB DELEGATION. DEPARTMENT WILL WISH TO CONSIDER COMPOSITION OF U.S. DELEGATION IN ORDER TO ENSURE REPRESENTATION BY COUNTER-PART AGENCIES WHERE APPROPRIATE. END SUMMARY.

2. DIPLOMATIC NOTE NO. 361 OF AUGUST 18, 1978 (TEXT IN REF. B APPROVED BY REF. A) DELIVERED TO COUNSELOR CARLOS LUIZ PEREZ, CHIEF OF FONMIN'S BASIC PRODUCTS DIVISION. PEREZ AGREED IN PRINCIPLE WITH THE DATES OF SEPTEMBER 20-21, 1978 FOR THE FIRST MEETING ON THE SUB-GROUP ON AGRICULTURE IN BRASILIA. HE SAID THERE HAD BEEN TWO MEETINGS WITHIN THE GOB ON SUBJECT SINCE JULY 5-6 EXPLORATORY MEETING IN WASHINGTON.

3. PEREZ SAID THERE WOULD BE WIDE PARTICIPATION WITHIN

THE GOB IN THE SUB-GROUP ON AGRICULTURE: MINISTRIES
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OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, FINANCE, AND MINES AND ENERGY (THE LATTER BECAUSE OF THE ENERGY PROPOSAL). IN ADDITION THE PLANNING SECRETARIAT AND CNPQ (NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH) MAY BE REPRESENTED ON THE SUB-GROUP FROM THE GOB'S SIDE. PEREZ SAID HE WOULD TRY TO PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION FROM THESE

ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK OR TWO. HE EXPECTED THAT THE HEAD OF THE ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT OF THE FONMIN, MINISTER CARLOS AUGUSTO DE PROENCA ROSA, WOULD BE CHAIRMAN OF THE BRAZILIAN DELEGATION.

4. PEREZ TOOK THE POSITION THAT THE GOB EXPECTS THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SUB-GROUP TO BE DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO CONSIDERING AND ESTABLISHING "THE AGENDA OF THE SUB-GROUP". HE SAID THE PROPOSALS WHICH HAD BEEN PUT FORTH BY THE USDA WERE COMPLEX AND AFFECTED MANY AREAS OF THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT. HE HOPED THAT THE USG WOULD PROVIDE REPRESENTATION FROM THE COUNTERPART AGENCIES OF THE USG TO THE EXTENT COMPARABLE AND POSSIBLE. HE FELT THAT THIS WAS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SUB-GROUP IN ORDER TO PERMIT DECISIONS TO BE MADE ON THE ACTIVITIES WHICH WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SUB-GROUP ON AGRICULTURE.
COMMENT: WHILE PEREZ RAISED NO DOUBT THAT THE FONMIN INTENDS TO OVERSEE THE ORGANIZATION AND MANDATE OF THE SUB-GROUP ON AGRICULTURE, HE WAS VERY POSITIVE ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF FINDING MANY AREAS FOR MUTUAL COOPERATION AND BENEFIT. HE SEEMED AGREEABLE TO THE OPENING SESSION ON THE AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 20 AND TO TWO FURTHER WORKING SESSIONS ON SEPTEMBER 21, ALTHOUGH HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO ACCOMPLISH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE WORK IN ONLY TWO ONE-HALF DAY SESSIONS. EMBASSY BELIEVES MORNING AND AFTERNOON SESSIONS SHOULD BE SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 22. DEPARTMENT WILL WISH TO GIVE EARLY CONSIDERATION TO COMPOSITION OF US DELEGATION. EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION ON BRAZILIAN DELEGATION AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE. END COMMENT.

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